

Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-07

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 L-03 AGR-05 CIAE-00 COME-00

INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 SP-02 STR-04 TRSE-00 CIEP-01

FRB-03 OMB-01 ITC-01 AGRE-00 /049 R

DRAFTED BY EB/FTD:SFOUTS:CSH

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COMMERCE:DFOOTE

LABOR:FJAMES (INFO)

EA/INS:JGRAHAME

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R 271318Z SEP 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

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E.O. 11652:

TAGS: ETRD, IN

SUBJECT: BILATERAL TEXTILE AGREEMENT

REF: STATE 227265

1. ON SEPTEMBER 21, INDIAN EMBASSY DELIVERED LETTER TO DEPARTMENT STATING THAT GOI STATISTICS DO NOT SHOW OVERSHIPMENT IN GROUP II AND ONLY A VERY SMALL OVERSHIPMENT IN GROUP I AND THE AGGREGATE. LETTER REQUESTS THAT IN LIGHT OF THIS DISCREPANCY, AND SMALL AMOUNT OF OVERSHIPMENTS, EMBARGO BE LIFTED.

2. GOI STATISTICS SHOW SHIPMENTS THROUGH AUGUST 31 OF 152.766 MILLION SYE (100.5 PERCENT) OF AGGREGATE, 133.62 MILLION SYE (100.1 PERCENT) OF GROUP I AND 19.138 MILLION SYE (95.7 PERCENT) OF GROUP II. U.S. FIGURES OF 15

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SEPTEMBER SHOW ARRIVALS OF 103 PERCENT OF AGGREGATE,

103.5 PERCENT OF GROUP I AND 99.2 PERCENT OF GROUP II.

3. U.S. OFFICIAL COMMENTED THAT DIFFERENCES BETWEEN U.S AND GOI STATISTICS WAS VERY SMALL. HE ALSO NOTED THAT U.S. STATISTICS WERE TWO WEEKS LATER THAN GOI'S AND THAT AIR SHIPMENTS MADE AFTER AUGUST 31 COULD HAVE ARRIVED BEFORE SEPTEMBER 15.

4. INDIAN EMBASSY OFFICIAL SAID HE THOUGHT IT VERY UNLIKELY THAT VERY MANY SHIPMENTS MADE AFTER AUGUST 31 WOULD ARRIVE IN U.S. BEFORE SEPT. 30. HE INDICATED THAT GOI WAS WILLING TO HAVE SHIPMENTS MADE BEFORE SEPT. 30 WHICH ARRIVE IN U.S. AFTER OCTOBER 1 CHARGED TO NEXT AGREEMENT YEAR, BUT BELIEVED THAT SHIPMENTS IN EXCESS OF QUOTA THROUGH SEPT. 30 WOULD BE MINOR AND SHOULD NOT BE CHARGED.

5. U.S. OFFICIAL SAID THAT WE WERE UNABLE TO LIFT EMBARGO WITHOUT AGREEMENT FROM GOI THAT OVERSHIPMENTS WOULD BE CHARGED TO NEXT AGREEMENT YEAR. THESE CHARGES MIGHT BE DISCUSSED BY THE U.S. AND INDIA AT A LATER DATE AS PART OF OVERALL DISCUSSION OF BILATERAL AGREEMENT, BUT NO ENTRIES CAN BE ALLOWED AT THIS TIME WITHOUT PROVISION FOR CHARGING. U.S. OFFICIAL STATED THAT WE WOULD HONOR GOI REQUEST TO LIFT EMBARGO AND CHARGE OVERSHIPMENT TO NEXT AGREEMENT YEAR, WITH GOI RESERVING ITS POSITION ON ULTIMATE DISPOSITION OF CHARGES. IF SUCH A REQUEST IS NOT MADE, HOWEVER, ALL ARRIVALS SHIPPED BEFORE SEPT. 30 WILL CONTINUE TO BE EMBARGOED.

6. GOI OFFICIAL SAID HE UNDERSTOOD THIS AND BELIEVED IT WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE TO HIS GOVERNMENT. HE SAID HE WOULD REQUEST INSTRUCTIONS FROM DELHI AND INFORM US OF THE GOI'S DECISION. KISSINGER

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